

Subject: Update

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Conversation: Update

NEWS – Bible Gets Overhaul for Short Attention Spans

Excerpt:

In the beginning was the Word, but the Word went on a bit, so a new version of the Bible has been produced for readers with short attention spans.

The 100-minute Bible, aimed at the "hurried and harried" generation, was launched at Canterbury Cathedral yesterday by its author, Rev. Michael Hinton.

While the original takes about a week of solid reading to finish, the abbreviated version can be read from cover to cover in under two hours, said Hinton.

Read the Full Article at <http://www.christiangays.com/articles/petre.shtml>

HOPE FOR GAYS

I have added a nice animation to the **Footprints poem** on the [Hope For Gays](#) page. If you'd like to see and read it, it's at <http://www.christiangays.com/comfort.shtml>

(Thanks Janina!)

A COUPLE OF NEW TIDBITS

"What happens IN us is more important than what happens TO us."

- [Robert Schuller Jr.](#)

IN TIME FOR HALLOWEEN

A woman was asked by a co-worker, "What is it like to be a Christian?"

The co-worker replied, "It is like being a pumpkin."

God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you.

Then He cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff.

He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed.

Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."

(Thanks DJ via George!)

Newbies, if you have never checked out the [Gay Tidbits](#) page, I think you'll enjoy it. It's just short little quotes and stories of inspiration and hope. Check it out at <http://www.christiangays.com/tidbits.shtml>

FORWARDS FROM OUR MEMBERS

I invited you all to take advantage of the [Bulletin Boards](#) if you have received an inspirational prayer or poem or story and would like to share it with us all. Thanks so much to Roger for posting a wonderful prayer that we could all pray every day. This post is really worth reading!

Please go to <http://www.christiangays.com/invboard/>

Scroll down to "[Forwards From Our Members](#)" category. So far, this is the only post in that category. It's title is "**Great Prayer**".

(Thanks Roger!)

GAY TRIVIA

Our **pink triangle** is actually called a Rosawinkel. The pink triangle badge was used by Nazis to identify homosexuals in the concentration camps. A German gay rights organization campaigning for compensation for gay camp survivors reclaimed the name and symbol.

Metropolitan Community Church was founded by the Rev. Troy Perry. Perry was a Pentecostal minister until 1967, when he was excommunicated after refusing to denounce his homosexuality.

D.C. Comics has produced a four-book miniseries, Metropolis S.C.U. (Special Crimes Unit), in which the main character is Captain Maggie Sawyer, a lesbian superhero.

Question: What **television show** of the 1960's and 1970's had the most homosexual actors?

Answer: Bewitched, with actors Dick Sargent (Darrin), Diane Murphy (Tabatha), Agnes Mooreheads (Samantha's mother, and Paul Lynde (Samantha's uncle).

BULLETIN BOARDS – Looking for more volunteers

Jan has been faithful in monitoring the Bulletin Boards, and by sending out welcome letters and birthday wishes, and she also makes sure that people who need responses hear from someone.

She plans on continuing to do this, but I would also like to ask those of you who feel a desire to participate on ChristianGays.com, and who would like to make a difference in people's lives, to also become involved in this part of our ministry.

The Bulletin Boards allow people to post their prayer requests as well as introduce themselves, ask questions, etc. It's just another format that we can use to support each other, but I've noticed since we started the List Serve, that the use of the Bulletin Boards has dropped off. This is understandable since you can now email each other directly.

My concern is that with the drop off in activity, that someone may slip through the

cracks, and God knows that we have all been so rejected throughout our lives, that if someone writes, and if Jan doesn't catch it, and nobody responds, then it's gotta feel like more rejection, only from people who claim to care. I want to try to avoid that every happening to anyone.

It's wonderful that Jan writes to them, and it would be even nicer if several of you wrote. To a newbie, it would make them feel much more welcomed here to see a few messages from several of you.

Please pray about it and let me know if this is something that you'd like to do.

Thanks!

If you have never visited the Bulletin Boards, please check them out at <http://www.christiangays.com/invboard/>

SHOES

I suspect that this following little ditty was written to the people like the nicely dressed fellow to teach them a lesson of compassion, but I send it to you, knowing that many of you are the "fellow with the dusty shoes" and from that perspective, this is meant, not to teach any of you lessons, but to allow you to recognize your own value.

I showered and shaved. I adjusted my tie. I got there and sat in a pew, just in time. Bowing my head in prayer, as I closed my eyes, I saw the shoe of the man next to me, touching my own. I sighed.

With plenty of room on either side, I thought, "Why must our soles touch?" It bothered me, his shoe touching mine. But it didn't bother him much.

A prayer began: "Our Father" I thought, "This man with the shoes has no pride. They're dusty, worn, and scratched. Even worse, there are holes on the side!"

"Thank You for blessings," the prayer went on.
The shoe man said a quiet "Amen."

I tried to focus on the prayer, but my thoughts were on his shoes again. Aren't we supposed to look our best when walking through that door?
"Well, this certainly isn't it," I thought, Glancing toward the floor.

Then the prayer was ended, and the songs of praise began.
The shoe man was certainly loud, sounding proud as he sang.
His voice lifted the rafters. His hands were raised high.
The Lord could surely hear the shoe man's voice from the sky.

It was time for the offering, and what I threw in was steep.
I watched as the shoe man reached into his pockets so deep.
I saw what was pulled out - what the shoe man put in.
Then I heard a soft "clink" as when silver hits tin.

The sermon really bored me to tears, and that's no lie.
It was the same for the shoe man, for tears fell from his eyes.

At the end of the service, as is the custom here,
We must greet new visitors, and show them all good cheer.
But I felt moved somehow and wanted to meet the shoe man.
So after the closing prayer, I reached over and shook his hand.

He was old and his skin was dark, and his hair was truly a mess,
But I thanked him for coming, for being our guest.
He said, "My names' Charlie. I'm glad to meet you, my friend."
There were tears in his eyes, but he had a large, wide grin.

"Let me explain," he said, wiping tears from his eyes.
"I've been coming here for months, and you're the first to say 'Hi.'"
"I know that my appearance is not like all the rest.
But I really do try to always look my best.
I always clean and polish my shoes before my very long walk.
But by the time I get here, they're dirty and dusty, like chalk."

My heart filled with pain and I swallowed to hide my tears,
As he continued to apologize for daring to sit so near.

He said, "When I get here, I know I must look a sight.
But I thought if I could touch you, then maybe our souls might unite."

I was silent for a moment, knowing whatever was said
Would pale in comparison. I spoke from my heart, not my head.

"Oh, you've touched me," I said, "And taught me, in part;
That the best of any man is what is found in his heart."

The rest, I thought, this shoe man will never know.
Like just how thankful I really am, that his dirty old shoe touched my soul.

(Another great one from Jack! Thanks Jack!)

SCHOOL TESTS – Out of the Mouths of Babes

Catholic elementary school kids were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. The following statements about the Bible have neither been retouched, nor corrected. Incorrect spelling has been left in.

1. IN THE FIRST BOOK OF THE BIBLE, GUINNESSIS. GOD GOT TIRED OF CREATING THE WORLD SO HE TOOK THE SABBATH OFF.
2. ADAM AND EVE WERE CREATED FROM AN APPLE TREE. NOAH'S WIFE WAS JOAN OF ARK. NOAH BUILT AND ARK AND THE ANIMALS CAME ON IN PEARS.
3. LOTS WIFE WAS A PILLAR OF SALT DURING THE DAY, BUT A BALL OF FIRE DURING THE NIGHT.
4. THE JEWS WERE A PROUD PEOPLE AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY THEY HAD TROUBLE WITH UNSYMPATHETIC GENITALS.
5. SAMPSON WAS A STRONGMAN WHO LET HIMSELF BE LED ASTRAY BY A JEZEBEL LIKE DELILAH.
6. SAMSON SLAYED THE PHILISTINES WITH THE AXE OF THE APOSTLES.
7. MOSES LED THE JEWS TO THE RED SEA WHERE THEY MADE UNLEAVENED BREAD WHICH IS BREAD WITHOUT ANY INGREDIENTS.
8. THE EGYPTIANS WERE ALL DROWNED IN THE DESSERT. AFTERWARDS, MOSES

WENT UP TO MOUNT CYANIDE TO GET THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

9. THE FIRST COMMANDMENTS WAS WHEN EVE TOLD ADAM TO EAT THE APPLE.

10. THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT IS THOU SHALT NOT ADMIT ADULTERY.

11. MOSES DIED BEFORE HE EVER REACHED CANADA. THEN JOSHUA LED THE HEBREWS IN THE BATTLE OF GERITOL.

12. THE GREATEST MIRACLE IN THE BIBLE IS WHEN JOSHUA TOLD HIS SON TO STAND STILL AND HE OBEYED HIM.

13. DAVID WAS A HEBREW KING WHO WAS SKILLED AT PLAYING THE LIAR. HE FOUGHT THE FINKELSTEINS, A RACE OF PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN BIBLICAL TIMES.

14. SOLOMON, ONE OF DAVID'S SONS, HAD 300 WIVES AND 700 PORCUPINES.

15. WHEN MARY HEARD SHE WAS THE MOTHER OF JESUS, SHE SANG THE MAGNA CARTA.

16. WHEN THE THREE WISE GUYS FROM THE EAST SIDE ARRIVED THEY FOUND JESUS IN THE MANAGER.

17. JESUS WAS BORN BECAUSE MARY HAD AN IMMACULATE CONTRAPTION.

18. ST. JOHN THE BLACKSMITH DUMPED WATER ON HIS HEAD.

19. JESUS ENUNCIATED THE GOLDEN RULE, WHICH SAYS TO DO UNTO OTHERS BEFORE THEY DO ONE TO YOU. HE ALSO EXPLAINED A MAN DOTH NOT LIVE BY SWEAT ALONE.

20. IT WAS A MIRACLE WHEN JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND MANAGED TO GET THE TOMBSTONE OFF THE ENTRANCE.

21. THE PEOPLE WHO FOLLOWED THE LORD WERE CALLED THE 12 DECIBELS.

22. THE EPISTELS WERE THE WIVES OF THE APOSTLES.

23. ONE OF THE OPPOSSUMS WAS ST. MATTHEW WHO WAS ALSO A TAXIMAN.

24. ST. PAUL CAVORTED TO CHRISTIANITY, HE PREACHED HOLY ACRIMONY WHICH IS ANOTHER NAME FOR MARRAIGE.

25. CHRISTIANS HAVE ONLY ONE SPOUSE. THIS IS CALLED MONOTONY.

(Thanks DJ thru (brother) George!)

God bless,
Mary

Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!

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Gay by God. Proud by choice!

If you have any questions or concerns, please write to mary@christiangays.com

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